



## News Release

For Immediate Release

### **Job Fair Next Week for French Lick Resort & Casino**

*More than 1,000 jobs to provide economic boost to region*

WEST BADEN, Ind. (June 2, 2006) -- Officials from the state of Indiana and the French Lick Resort & Casino gathered at the West Baden Springs Hotel atrium today to announce details about a job fair for the resort and casino scheduled next weekend. More than 1,000 jobs will be created over the next year at the \$382 million resort, casino and golf course development.

The job fair will be held at the West Baden Springs Hotel on Friday, June 9, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday, June 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The West Baden Springs Hotel is located at 8538 West Baden Ave. (State Road 56) in West Baden, Ind.

"The opening of the French Lick Resort & Casino will provide a huge economic impact not only to Orange County, but also to southern Indiana," said Ron Stiver, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "We encourage anyone interested in well-paying jobs to participate in the job fair next week, to have their skills assessed and to review the specific requirements for each position."

"Our local WorkOne offices will help administer this very important economic development opportunity," Stiver said.

The WorkOne offices in Bedford, Bloomington and New Albany are participating in the job fair and assisting in the job application and placement process. Job fair attendees will receive information on the types of jobs available, be able to apply for positions, undertake a readiness assessment of their skills and have a preliminary interview with officials from the resort.

French Lick Resort & Casino will have both hourly and management positions available, such as table game supervisors at the casino, massage therapists at the spa, and a variety of food and beverage, retail and hospitality positions at the resort.

Stiver noted that the unemployment rates in Orange and several nearby counties are among the highest in the state of Indiana.

Scott Spurlock, general manager of the French Lick Springs Hotel, said that about 700 jobs remain to be filled for the resort, and 350 jobs are available for the casino.

“When the resort reopens in November, we look forward to providing the best possible service to our guests,” said Spurlock. “Hoosier hospitality begins at home, and we hope to fill many of the jobs with the people who know and love this community.”

The French Lick Resort & Casino is a \$382 million historic restoration and casino development project that includes the French Lick Springs Hotel, the new French Lick Casino (both opening November 2006) and the West Baden Springs Hotel (opening June 2007). When complete, this premier resort and casino destination will feature 684 guest rooms and suites; an 84,000-square-foot casino with a 42,000-square-foot, single-level gaming floor; 45 holes of golf, including the fully restored 1920-designed Donald Ross Course (opening August 2006) and a new, 18-hole Pete Dye course (opening spring 2008); two full-service spas with a combined 36 treatment rooms totaling 41,000 square feet; and an array of dining and entertainment options. More information is available at [www.frenchlick.com](http://www.frenchlick.com).

Benchmark Hospitality International, an independent hospitality management company based in The Woodlands (Houston), Texas, operates resorts, conference centers, hotels and condominium resorts both domestically and internationally. Locations of Benchmark Hospitality properties and additional information is available at [www.benchmarkhospitality.com](http://www.benchmarkhospitality.com).

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve worker skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with Indiana’s 26 WorkOne employment centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service. More information is available at [www.workforce.IN.gov](http://www.workforce.IN.gov).

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